

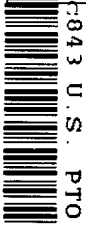
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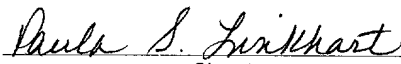
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February 8, 2002

FILE: 11898.0021.NPUS00

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BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RE: *U.S. Patent Application Entitled: "Identification of Seeds or Plants Using Phenotypic Markers"*

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a 39-page patent specification including 39 claims and an abstract. The specification constitutes the application of Greg A. Penner, Stefan A. Bledig, and Timothy W. Conner for the captioned invention.

Please note that this application is filed without an inventors' Declaration and Assignment, a Declaration Claiming Small Entity Status, a Power of Attorney, and filing fees. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) and (f), the Applicants request the Patent and Trademark Office to accept this application and accord a serial number and filing date as of the date this application is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service for Express Mail. Further, the Applicants request that the NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS-FILING DATE GRANTED pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f) be sent to the undersigned Applicants' representative.

Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to evidence receipt of this application.

Commissioner for Patents
February 8, 2002
Page 2

Please forward any reply to this communication directly to our Houston office for docketing purposes. The mailing address and the physical address for courier packages is 750 Bering Drive, Houston, Texas, 77057-2198, and the Houston fax number is 713.787.1440.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert P. Auerbach
Patent Agent
Reg. No.: 46,525

Encl:
Nonprovisional Patent Application (39 pages)
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